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SAR DOGS



CTWG 001

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UPCOMING EVENTS

5/23-24 NER Cadet Comp
5/23-24 NER SARX
6/20 Wing Rocketry Comp
7/4-11 CTWG Encampment
7/10-18 NER Staff College
7/19-30 NER Cadet Academy
9/2-5 National Conference
10/23-25 CTWG Conference
11/2-8 SAR EVAL

The Official Newsletter of the Connecticut Wing, CAP-USAF Middletown, Connecticut

SAR DOGS kicks off its first issue for 2009

The purpose of a quarterly newsletter is to provide specialized information to a targeted audience.

SARDOGS, the Official Newsletter of the Connecticut Wing and all its Squadrons, intends to publish as many Wing and Squadron activities as possible.

We will also include messages of general importance to our membership from CAP NatHQ

as well as CAP missions of interest to our readers.

If you are in a rush and don't want to wait for the **SAR DOGS** quarterly to come out, please stop by our blog: **Always Vigilant** (www.alwaysvigilant.blogspot.com). Much of the content you see here in **SAR DOGS** will have been showcased there, on a daily basis. Please consider making **Always**

Vigilant your home page and remember there is a comments function that allows you state your opinion, converse with other members and / or update the information in the posting. Member contributions and photos are always welcome. For now, please send them to the CTWG HQ email address. Keep in mind, all comments are moderated and will be held to "The Universal Code of CT Wing Justice!"

Robertson Airport Open House

Take a gorgeous early spring morning, punctuate it with the exciting buzz of aircraft from the WW II era, some modern sport planes and even a few small jets taking off or landing and you have a really interesting event for the Plainville area.

Saturday, the privately owned Robertson Airport went on public display. The airport is known as one of the best equipped in all of Southern New England and serves the needs of both private flight and civic serving organizations like the Civil Air Patrol.

Late last year, Tomasso Brothers Inc. offered the airport for sale to a combined group including the Town of Plainville, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the State Department of Transportation

(DOT). As it exists, the airport is already a profitable operation with the capability and room to expand in the future.

The open house was a great opportunity for the Town of Plainville and its citizens to look over the airports operation and dream of what could be. Based on the enthusiastic number of adults and "children of all ages" examining the almost 100 aircraft, its claim to be a positive benefit to the community was being well received.

The day's events included aircraft rides for local youth, numerous information booths and static displays by aviation groups such as the Civil Air Patrol who allowed visitors to climb in and out of the search and rescue (SAR) aircraft, one of which was the very first

civilian aircraft to fly humanitarian aid missions over NY City after the terrorist attack of September 11th 2001.

Additional presenters included Life Star helicopter, the FAA, the Town of Plainville DOT, Interstate Aviation and even the opportunity to stop and talk with Mike Allen of WTIC's Traffic Control.

A CAP Cadet performs some impromptu aerospace education for two young visitors.



The Battle for Fargo

March 26, 2009
MAXWELL AIR FORCE
BASE, Ala. – Citizen
Volunteers from Civil Air
Patrol's North Dakota and
Minnesota wings are stepping
forward to serve as flooding
from the Red River threatens
communities in both states.

CAP members are filling and
stacking hundreds of
thousands of sandbags near
the civic center in Fargo, N.D.,
as well as outside a radio
station in the city. CAP
aircrews also are making
damage assessment flights, as
weather permits, to help
protect critical infrastructure.

North Dakota and Minnesota
have been hit with multiple

weather emergencies in recent
days as flooding persists along
the Red River and its
tributaries. A severe blizzard
blew through most of the
region earlier this week,
blanketing the ground with
thick heavy snow. Power lines
are down in western North
Dakota and a massive ice jam
has blocked the Missouri
River south of Bismarck,
N.D., causing the evacuation
of residents. Ice jams have
caused several other smaller
evacuations.

Much of the Fargo, N.D.-
Moorhead, Minn., and
metropolitan area has become
an island with the closing of
most roads in and out of area
communities due to flooding

and snowdrifts.

Over three days, more than 150
Civil Air Patrol members from
the North Dakota and Minnesota
wings participated in
sandbagging operations as well
as limited damage assessment
flights for local emergency
managers.



The Newly Named 186th Gets a New Home

Southington, CT 27
February 2009:
In a beautiful, newly
reconditioned Southington
Armory, F Company of the
186th Brigade Support
Battalion Army National
Guard (ANG) welcomed in
its newest roommate, the
newly renamed 186th
Composite Squadron of the
Civil Air Patrol (CAP). The
ceremony was attended by F
Company Commander,

Captain Alysea M. Kelleher
Company Commander,
Company F of the 186th
ANG, CAP Connecticut
Wing Commander, Col.
Peter K. Jensen, other
members of the 186th ANG,
the 186th Squadron and local
residents.

In addition to the welcoming
ceremony, cadet/2nd Lt
Joseph Kosswig was
awarded the General Billy

Mitchell Award, reaching a
very significant milestone in
the CAP Cadet Program.
Cadet/Staff Sergeant Avery
Hage was awarded the
Wright Brothers Award.



Wing O-Flights

So what's it like to take
your first O-Flight?
Pictures can be worth a
thousand words!



The Danbury 399th produces five, count em, five Mitchells in one night and then a congressional citation and then an acceptance to the US Coast Guard Academy and then an acceptance to Norwich University...

On a cold winter night, surrounded by emergency equipment at a hanger at the Danbury Airport, distinguished guests met to recognize the achievements of local youth; the cadets of the Danbury 399th Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol. Among the dignitaries present were Mayor Mark Boughton, State Representative Jan Giegler and State Representative MaryAnn Carson.

All of the dignitaries present expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the volunteer service provided by both the senior members (adults) and cadets (youth). They were pleased to recognize the Danbury unit of Civil Air Patrol, which in addition to the cadet program also stands ready to provide Emergency Services and Search & Rescue operations with their single engine airplanes in the air and search teams on the ground.

This night, five high school age cadets of the 399th were called to attention, each receiving the General Billy Mitchell Award for completion of a significant milestone in the CAP Cadet Program. The awards were presented by a team of local dignitaries including Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton, State Representative Jan Giegler and State Representative MaryAnn Carson. The Mitchell Award marks the cadets' promotion into the CAP Cadet Officer Corp and should they decide to enter the US Air Force, advanced status in rank and privilege. The awarding of five Mitchell awards at once is a record for the Connecticut CAP and a great credit to the Danbury Squadron.

The Cadets receiving the CAP General Billy Mitchell award were: Cadet 1st Lt Ryan Chapman of New Fairfield, CT; Cadet 2nd Lt Peter Foschi of Southbury, CT; Cadet 2nd Lt

Willie Steers of Roxbury, CT; Cadet 2nd Lt Garrett Kennedy of Golden's Bridge, NY and Cadet 2nd Lt Jon Wagner of Waccabuc, NY.

In addition to the Mitchell Awards, Representative Jan Giegler bestowed upon Cadet Major Ethan Zitzman of Southbury, CT a State Congressional Citation commemorating his service as Cadet Squadron Commander prior to his 'passing of the colors' to his replacement, Cadet 1st Lieutenant Ryan Chapman of New Fairfield, CT. Cadet Major Zitzman will move on to new challenges this fall as a first year cadet at the US Coast Guard Academy.



Milford Cadet Accepted to US Naval Academy

MILFORD -- Alejandra Dorado was born in Spain, but she considers the United States her home country -- so much that she wants nothing more than to serve this country, first as a naval officer and later as an astronaut.

She was accepted to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., becoming the first young woman from Law ever to do so. She is only the second

from Milford, according to Kevin Liddy, a member of the city Planning and Zoning Board and a 1978 graduate of the academy who helped Dorado navigate the academy's elaborate application process as her Blue & Gold Officer.



Meriden Cadet accepted to US Naval Academy



According to US Naval Academy figures, approximately one of every thousand applicants will receive the required Senatorial or Congressional recommendation, pass the extremely stringent academic and physical qualifications and receive an acceptance to the Annapolis, Maryland Academy.

Cadet/Master Sergeant George Planeta IV of the Civil Air Patrol's Meriden Squadron

was one.

Planeta's application, after having received the combined recommendation of both Senator Joseph Lieberman and US Congressman John Larson was accepted for the fall of 2009. Planeta, a student at Portland High School where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Captain of the wrestling team and an All State marksman champion is also a Cadet Master Sergeant in the Civil Air Patrol, the

United States Air Force Auxiliary. Serving as the Squadron Flight Sergeant of the Meriden Cadets, he is part of an all volunteer team helping to protect our 3.5 million citizens.

Additionally, he volunteers his personal time to support Habitat for Humanity, Mains & Motion horsemanship for the disabled and tutors Spanish to local middle school students.

Don't trash the Beacon!



Accidental Signals Distract Responders from REAL Emergencies
Boat and plane owners upgrading their emergency beacons to the newer technology may be tempted to toss their old ones in the nearest dumpster. But emergency beacons -- also known as ELTs in aircraft and EPIRBs in watercraft -- were not meant to be discarded like common trash.

The Civil Air Patrol, in

partnership with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, has kicked off a communications initiative -- a "Don't Trash the Beacon" campaign -- to inform boaters and airplane owners about proper disposal of obsolete emergency beacons. CAP squadrons across the nation are supporting this initiative by displaying posters about proper disposal in their communities.

When discarding the older 121.5/243 MHz analog frequency emergency locator beacons in favor of the stronger, more reliable 406 MHz frequency digital emergency beacons, it is important to first remove or disconnect the battery from the device so it cannot be accidentally activated. Then, contact a local electronics waste facility for proper disposal.

CTWGW Member fly's on B24



Oxford: The flight, which also included a B-24 Liberator, a B-25 Mitchell and a P-51 Mustang, was sponsored by the Massachusetts-based Collings Foundation. That nonprofit organization restores World War II-era aircraft to their original condition and displays them at airfields across the country.

"Noah Beaulieu, a 14-year-old Southington resident and

Civil Air Patrol member, saved four months' worth of lawn-mowing money to fly on the B-24. When he landed, a smiling Beaulieu said it was definitely worth it."

"It was pretty fun," Beaulieu said. "I wasn't expecting how loud the wind was going to be, but after you get over the noise, it's just pretty fun ...



NESA National Emergency Services Academy

Applications are now being accepted for the 2009 National Emergency Services Academy (NESA) to be held at Camp Atterbury in Edinburg, Indiana from the 27th of June until the 11th of July 2009. There are courses for all members interested in emergency services, and this is a great opportunity for both new members as well as experienced members to come train with hundreds of their peers from across the country.

Apply online at:
<https://ntc.cap.af.mil/ops/nesa/>
 or download an offline application form from:
http://nesa.cap.gov/Documents/2009_NESA_Offline_Application_Form_-_Fillable.dot.
 Slots will be filled on a first come first served basis through the 17th of May 2009 or until slots are filled, whichever comes first. Personnel are encouraged to apply soon to get into the course or courses they desire. Some courses fill up faster than others and there are a few that are nearly full already. The following fifteen courses will be offered this year at NESA:

National Ground Search And Rescue School (NGSAR)
 NGSAR Basic Course – 28 June to 4 July 2009
 NGSAR Basic Course – 5 to 11 July 2009
 NGSAR Advanced Course – 28 June to 4 July 2009
 NGSAR Advanced Course – 5 to 11 July 2009
 NGSAR First Responder Course – 4 to 11 July 2009

NGSAR Ground Team Leader Course – 4 to 11 July 2009

Incident Command System School (ICSS)
 ICSS Basic Course – 28 June to 4 July 2009 – Includes ICS-300 Training
 ICSS Advanced Course – 5 to 11 July 2009 – Includes ICS-400 Training
 ICSS Mission Communications Course – 28 June to 4 July 2009 – New in 2009

Mission Aircrew School
 MAS Basic Course (Mission Scanner & Airborne Photographer) – 28 June to 4 July 2009
 MAS Intermediate Course (Mission Pilot or Observer Track) – 27 June to 4 July 2009
 MAS Intermediate Course (Mission Pilot or Observer Track) – 4 to 11 July 2009
 MAS Advanced Course (Mission Pilot or Observer Track) – 4 to 11 July 2009
 MAS ARCHER Course – 28 June to 4 July 2009
 MAS ARCHER Course – 5 to 11 July 2009

Additional pre-requisites and information about NESA and the above courses can be found at: <http://nesa.cap.gov/>.

The fee to attend NESA is \$175 per course which includes, meals, lodging on site, printed training materials and aircraft and ground vehicle sortie costs on site. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from NESA, though many

personnel are able to travel in corporate vehicles and aircraft as they are needed on site for training. We also know in these tough financial times that some people will have difficulty attending activities like this without assistance. The NESA Alumni Association has several scholarships available for members in need of financial assistance. Scholarship applications must be received by the 15th of March 2009 to be considered, and members can download a scholarship application at:
http://nesa.cap.gov/Documents/2009_NESAAA_Scholarship_Application_Form_-_Fillable.dot.

Staff members are also still needed. Staff members are typically prior attendees who are qualified in the area they want to support. We also bring on a few junior staff members each year to work under the supervision of other experienced staff. If you've got the experience and are willing to give some of your time to commit to training fellow members, go ahead and apply. Staff members are required to pay a \$45 fee to cover the costs of basic supplies on site. Meals, lodging on site, and training materials are included. Staff activity dates vary by assignment.

If you have any additional questions please direct them to the NESA staff at NESA@capnhq.gov or call 1-888-211-1812 extension 323.

